



Fact Sheet

Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office (608) 388-3456/4209

Training Support Capabilities

Fort McCoy is the only U.S. Army installation in Wisconsin with facilities focused on providing Total Force training.

During each year of the last decade, the installation and its tenant activities have provided on-site support and facilities for the training of more than 100,000 training customers from all services.

The installation is one of 15 U.S. Army Power-Projection Platforms with the mission of supporting the mobilization of reserve-component units for any contingency at home or overseas. Since Sept. 11, 2001, Fort McCoy has supported the processing and training of more than 48,000 Soldiers undergoing mobilization and demobilization.

The post encompasses approximately 60,000 acres, with 46,000 acres of maneuver area. Through three land-use agreements, adjacent county and state lands provide an additional 62,000 acres of training area. Land available includes seven parcels of the Black River State Forest, which range from 5,000 to 10,000 acres each, as well as approximately 1,400 acres in Monroe County and approximately 1,000 acres in Jackson County. The use of these lands enhances training by allowing units to use Fort McCoy's maneuver areas to the maximum extent possible to train combat units and use the non Fort McCoy areas for real time/distance training for combat-support and combat-service-support units.

Fort McCoy's terrain and climatic conditions are similar to those in central Europe and present a variety of seasonal conditions that replicate conditions at almost any location worldwide.

Military personnel training here have access to a full spectrum of facilities, including 27 ranges, 62 training areas and numerous classrooms, to support individual and collective training compatible with environmental management standards. For example:

- ◆ Artillery units may use any of 22 standard firing points or establish non-standard firing points in any of the six field artillery Maneuver Corridor firing areas that were established in support of the National Guard's fielding of the Paladin System and Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS).

- ◆ Mortar firing may be conducted from any of 11 established mortar points or from non-standard firing points with prior approval.
- ◆ Aviation units may use the Multi-Purpose Training Range (MPTR), which features nine aerial firing points, each capable of hover or running fire. TOW (Tube-launched, Optically-tracked, Wire command-link guided) Missile System firing is possible at moving or stationary targets in excess of 2,000 meters.
- ◆ Training facilities available to units include two Enemy Prisoner of War Compounds, an Airborne Training Tower, a Swing Landing Trainer, a Hand-to-Hand Combat Pit, a Physical Conditioning Course, three Compass/Land Navigation Courses (mounted and dismounted), a Confidence Course, Live Grenade Range, Hand Grenade Qualification Courses, a Vehicle Recovery Site, two Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) Chambers, an NBC Decontamination Site, a Precision Driving Course (wheeled vehicles), a Track Vehicle Driving Course, a Rope Bridge Training Site, an Infantry Battle Drill Course, a Bayonet Training Court, a Bayonet Assault Course, an Urban Assault Complex, a Litter Obstacle Course, four drop zones, two demolition sites, a rapid runway repair site, a bridging operations site, and an earth-moving engineer site.
- ◆ A 12-foot rappelling tower is available for teaching basic rappelling techniques. The 34- and 55-foot towers are used to simulate helicopter, cliff and wall rappelling.
- ◆ Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement Systems (MILES) equipment sets are available for infantry, mechanized infantry, armor, cavalry, and aviation units. The GUARDFIST IIA (Guard Unit Armory Device for Full Crew Interactive Simulation Trainer) facility supports field artillery forward observer training in target identification and call-for-fire techniques, and has the capability to provide fire direction center personnel with training in communications and computing targets. Two Engagements Skills Trainer (EST) facilities assist in the development, improvement and sustainment of marksmanship skills using interactive training scenarios for various weapons systems.
- ◆ An MPTR permits armor, mechanized infantry and combat aviation units to conduct annual crew qualification, as well as providing numerous training scenarios for engineer, transportation, special operations, and any unit wanting to conduct a live-fire situational training exercise. This range also has an Infantry Platoon Battle Course capability.
- ◆ Fully modernized, automated small-arms and crew-served weapons familiarization and qualification ranges are available as follows: Combat Pistol Qualification Course - Range 1; Modified Record Fire Range - Range 32; Automated Record Fire Range - Range 101; two Multi Purpose Machine Gun Ranges - Range 2 and Range 34; Squad Defense Range – Range 17; and an Infantry Squad Battle Course - Range 6. The Range Control computer systems are operated and maintained by the Range Section of the Range and Training Division. Computer automation of the scoring process has greatly reduced the amount of time needed to conduct firing. Ranges are fully equipped to conduct day, night and NBC courses. The Muti Purpose Machine Gun Ranges have 10-meter ranges collected on the range. Modernized ranges include climate-controlled range towers, covered mess facilities,

ammunition-issue buildings, latrines, covered bleachers and classrooms. All range towers have loudspeaker systems and FM radios installed. Also available are 25-meter zero, M203, MK19 and AT4 ranges.

Fort McCoy is home to one of the largest equipment concentration sites in the Army. Equipment Concentration Site 67 stores, maintains, and issues equipment belonging to approximately 180 U.S. Army Reserve units. This allows geographically distant units that come to Fort McCoy to draw training equipment rather than transport it, which saves the unit time and all taxpayers money.

The Sparta-Fort McCoy Airport, a joint-use, military/civilian facility, and Young Air Assault Strip, an unimproved tactical landing site designed to replicate landing conditions in Third World countries, are located on the post. Each can accommodate aircraft as large as the C-17.

- ◆ The installation's 8,000-acre air-to-ground impact area can be used to train fixed-wing aircraft pilots in ground tactics. It also is used by pilots preparing for qualification at Hardwood Bombing Range near Volk Field.
- ◆ Fort McCoy is a key location for training pilots in the use of "night vision" goggles and nap-of-the-earth training.
- ◆ The post features four airborne drop zones. Badger Drop Zone, which has been surveyed as a 12-second drop zone, can support drops of personnel, bundles and all types of equipment. The smaller Warrens Drop Zone can support personnel and bundle drops. Young Air Assault Strip is used for low-altitude parachute extraction. The Cranberry Drop Zone is used for special operations.

Fort McCoy's training capabilities are enhanced further by easy access to a full range of transportation services. The post's railroad system features a 120T locomotive in conjunction with 10 ramps that have high-masted lighting to provide the capability for safe 24-hour operation for loading and unloading equipment. Fort McCoy also has a lighted container pad that can hold up to 200 containers while being used to on- or off-load rail cars. The installation has the material-handling equipment to off-load both truck and rail, which contributes to economy and efficiency in operations.

For more information about training at Fort McCoy call (608) 388-4629.